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METHOD, PROGRAM PRODUCT, AND PROCESSING SYSTEM
FOR PERFORMING OBJECT EDITING THROUGH IMPLICIT OBJECT SELECTION

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A data processing system (10) has a processor (11), a display device (15), and a user input arrangement (17) which includes a pointer control device (19) such as a mouse. An edit function input is entered through the user input arrangement (17) and a target to be edited is identified in response to the edit function input. The target comprises some displayed object that is specified by proximity to a system pointer (29) at the time the edit function input is received. The edit function input defines an edit operation to be performed by the data processing system (10) on the identified target. After receiving the edit function input and responding to the input by identifying the target, the method includes determining a state of the target which indicates whether or not the edit operation is currently applied to the target. If the state of the target indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the target, the method includes applying the edit operation to the target. In this way, the edit operation is applied to the target without first having to explicitly select the target.